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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

**UNITED AFRICAN-ASIAN
ABILITIES CLUB, ON BEHALF
OF ITSELF AND ITS
MEMBERS; JAMES LEE, An
Individual**

Plaintiffs,

v.

**NVANOWE, LLC; AND DOES 1
THROUGH 10, Inclusive**

Defendants.

Case No:

COMPLAINT

**DISCRIMINATORY
PRACTICES**

**[US Fair Housing Act of 1988 [42
U.S.C. §§ 3600 et seq, §3604(c),
§3604(f)(1-3), et seq.; CA
Government Code 12925, 12927,
12955; CA Civil Code §§ 51, 52,
54.3**

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

INTRODUCTION

1. Plaintiffs make the following allegations in this civil rights action:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

2. The federal jurisdiction of this action is based on the 42 U.S.C. §§ 3601, 3604 et. seq. - the U.S. Fair Housing Act Amendments of 1988 (Defendants' apartment property consist of four (4) or more residential units), and 42 U.S.C. § 12101 et. seq., the federal Americans With Disabilities Act. Venue is proper in this United States District Court for the Central District of California pursuant to 28

1 U.S.C. § 1391(b), because a substantial part of Plaintiffs’ claims arose within said
2 Judicial District.

3 **SUPPLEMENTAL JURISDICTION**

4 3. This United States District Court for the Central District of California has
5 supplemental jurisdiction over the California state claims as alleged in this
6 Complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a).

7 **NAMED DEFENDANTS AND NAMED PLAINTIFFS**

8 4. The term Plaintiffs as used herein specifically include the corporate Plaintiff
9 entity known as the United African-Asian Abilities Club, On Behalf Of Itself And Its
10 Members (hereinafter referred to as “Club” or “UAAAC”); and the individual
11 Plaintiff JAMES LEE (hereinafter referred to as “LEE” or the “named Individual
12 Plaintiff”. The Plaintiff Club and Plaintiff LEE are sometimes collectively referred
13 to as the “named Plaintiffs” or “Plaintiffs”.

14 5. Plaintiff United African-Asian Abilities Club (UAAAC) is registered and in
15 good standing as a Nevada corporation. The named individual Plaintiff LEE is a
16 member of the Plaintiff Club organization.

17 6. Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that named Defendant
18 NVANOWE, LLC is the operator of the apartment rental business known as
19 Vanowen Villa Apartments located at 16141 Vanowen Street Van Nuys, CA, 91406.
20 Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendant NVANOWE,
21 LLC, is the owner, operator, and/or lessor of the real property located at 16141
22 Vanowen Street Van Nuys, CA, 91406 (hereinafter referred to as the “Property”).

23 7. Defendant NVANOWE, LLC, is, and at all times mentioned herein were, a
24 business or corporation or franchise, organized and existing and/or doing business
25 under the laws of the State of California. Defendants Does 1 through 10, were at all
26 times relevant herein subsidiaries, employers, employees, and/or agents of the named
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Defendants.

CONCISE SET OF FACTS

8. The named Individual Plaintiff Lee has hip and knee conditions, uses a device for mobility, is unable to walk any distance, and also has a vision disability. Plaintiff Lee is also a member of the Plaintiff Club. The individual Plaintiff Lee had specific dates wherein he intended to go the Defendant's Property to access Defendants' rental services. Plaintiff Lee has actual knowledge of the overt and obvious physical and communication barriers at Defendants' Property. Plaintiff Lee determined that the open and obvious physical barriers that exist at Defendants' Property directly related to his disabilities, and that it would be impossible or extremely difficult for him to physically access Defendants' on-site rental services. See ¶¶ 25. Plaintiff Lee had knowledge of access barriers at the Property and determined that it would be futile gesture for him to go to the Property on the date that he had intended. The named Individual Plaintiff Lee was deterred by his actual knowledge of the physical and communication barriers that exist at Defendants' Property and also Defendants' website communication barriers. As used herein, website means any internet website where Defendants control the content. Exhibit B states the websites controlled by Defendants. Plaintiff Lee also attempted to access Defendants' rental services on Defendants websites but experienced great difficulty due to Defendants' failure to provide accessible website features.

9. The named Individual Plaintiff Lee attempted to use Defendants' website to access Defendants' online rental services, but had great difficulty due to his disabilities. The named Individual Plaintiff Lee also could not determine from Defendants' website content whether Defendants' rental services at the property or off the property, and common areas at the property were physically accessible to him. The named Individual Plaintiff Lee requested that Plaintiff Club assist him to

1 obtain information regarding the physical accessibility of Defendants' rental services
2 at the property and off-site. In response to the named Individual Plaintiff's request,
3 Plaintiff Club sent one of its members to Defendants' property. The named
4 Individual Plaintiff personally reviewed all the information and photographs of
5 Defendants' property. As a result, the named Individual Plaintiff has actual
6 knowledge of the overt and obvious physical and communication barriers to
7 Defendants rental service at Defendants' Property. The named Individual Plaintiff
8 determined that the open and obvious physical barriers that exist at Defendants'
9 Property directly related to his disabilities, and that it would be impossible or
10 extremely difficult for him to physically access Defendants' on-site rental services.
11 See ¶¶ 25. The named Individual Plaintiff Lee had actual knowledge and determined
12 that it would be futile gesture for him to go to the Property on the date that he had
13 intended. The named Individual Plaintiff was deterred by his actual knowledge of
14 the physical and communication barriers that exist at Defendants' Property and
15 website. The named Individual Plaintiff made a written request to Defendants' for
16 an accommodation to have equal access to Defendants' rental services and to
17 eliminate the communication and physical barriers to Defendants' rental services,
18 both online and at the property. At the end of this action, the named Individual
19 Plaintiff Lee intends to return to Defendants' website and Defendants' property to
20 obtain rental information and verify that the communication and physical barriers to
21 Defendants' rental services are removed.

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23 10. The named Plaintiff Club is an organization that advocates on the behalf of its
24 members with disabilities when their civil rights and liberties have been violated.
25 Plaintiff Club and Plaintiff Lee investigated Defendants' websites and apartment
26 Property in January, 2025. The named Plaintiffs investigated Defendants apartment
27 property and Defendants websites. Plaintiff Club member Sharon Riguer
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1 investigated the Property on the Internet websites. Additional Plaintiff Club
2 members investigated Defendants websites and found that they did not provide equal
3 access. The results of the research from Club Member Sharon Riguer are contained
4 in the Exhibit B to this Complaint. Club members ascertained that Defendants'
5 rental services at Defendants Property were not physically accessible to Plaintiff Lee
6 by a Club member with a disability who went to Defendants' apartment Property,
7 and said Club member attempted to access Defendants' on-site rental services.

8 11. Plaintiff Club diverted its time and resources from its normal purposes
9 because of Defendants' service, policy, program and physical barriers to Defendants
10 rental services at Defendants' websites and Property. Club personnel conducted
11 detailed Internet searches to determine if Defendants provide large print, deaf
12 interpreter, therapy animal, the required reasonable accommodation policy, and
13 required reasonable modification policy. Further, the Club retained contractors to
14 investigate said policies, to survey the property, to photograph the property, to
15 investigate when the Property was constructed, to investigate the Property ownership
16 and to have an access report prepared. Plaintiff Club also diverted staff to
17 investigate Defendants' Internet presence to determine compliance with the FHA and
18 ADA. Plaintiff Club also investigated Defendants' written rental materials such as
19 brochures, rental applications and leases. Moreover, Plaintiff Club made an oral
20 investigation to ascertain Defendants' companion animal, deaf interpreter and
21 reasonable accommodation and reasonable modification policies. Plaintiff Club also
22 caused a physical access consultant to be retained to survey Defendants' facility.
23 Plaintiff Club's findings regarding Defendants' rental services and facilities were
24 incorporated into an Access Report. The Access Report also details the known overt
25 and obvious physical access violations at the Property, but it is not intended as an
26 exhaustive list of existing violations. Due to these necessary activities to investigate,
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1 Plaintiff Club's time and resources were diverted from its normal activity. Plaintiff
2 Club suffered injury and also suffered monetary damages due to the diversion of the
3 Club's resources from its normal purposes.

4 12. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants control, operate, and maintain web pages at
5 different apartment websites where Defendants offer its rental services.

6 Additionally, Defendants provide rental services located at the Property.

7 13. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants' websites have a close nexus to Defendants'
8 physical site rental services because the websites refer to Defendants' rental services
9 that are offered at Defendants' property as well as elsewhere off the site. Therefore,
10 Plaintiffs allege that the websites are also places of public accommodation.

11 Defendants control the websites to the extent that Defendants can change the website
12 content to make modifications to comply with the FHA and ADA. Therefore,
13 Plaintiffs allege that Defendants can modify the content of Defendants' websites to
14 improve access for Plaintiffs and people with disabilities.

15 14. In this case, the named Plaintiffs allege that the Defendants failed to provide a
16 TTY number or the text messaging system for Plaintiffs and other people that are
17 deaf or people with speech conditions. Plaintiff Club members have a speech
18 disability. Moreover, Plaintiff Club alleges that the Defendants did not modify their
19 websites to eliminate non-readable text to allow the blind and people with low vision
20 to use the screen reader software to access the information on the website, yet they
21 also failed to use large print on their websites. See Exhibit B to this Complaint.

22 Plaintiffs assert that most popular screen reader programs are called Jobs Access
23 With Speech or "JAWS" and Apple's VoiceOver Software. Defendants actions
24 discriminate against Plaintiff Club, specifically Club members who have low vision
25 disabilities. Each of the Club members above cannot use the websites controlled by
26 the Defendants. Modifications to Defendants' websites will not fundamentally alter
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1 the rental services provided and will also not cause an undue burden to Defendants,
2 because the cost is less than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000).

3 15. In January, 2025, and on a second subsequent date, Plaintiff Club attempted to
4 make a request to the Defendants for reasonable accommodation at the property. On
5 January 15, 2025, the named individual Plaintiff LEE and Plaintiff Club emailed to
6 the Defendants a written request for a reasonable accommodation. In January, 2025,
7 Plaintiff LEE and Plaintiff Club, mailed a written request for a reasonable
8 accommodation. Defendants failed to respond to both Plaintiffs requests for
9 reasonable accommodation as of the date of the filing of this Civil Complaint.

10 16. Plaintiffs are not able to access Defendants rental services due to existing
11 overt and obvious communication and physical barriers to access Defendants' rental
12 services both at its online website and at the property. Due to the overt and obvious
13 physical barriers as alleged herein below, which are required to be removed,
14 Plaintiffs requested that Defendants accommodate them to provide access to
15 Defendants' rental services.

16 17. The named Plaintiffs allege that an accommodation is also obvious when a
17 whole group of the protected persons requires it. For example, when the public
18 without disabilities are required to get up to a second level, the public would be very
19 disturbed if they were required to request steps to go up to second level. When the
20 accommodation is specific to a particular person with a disability, then that person
21 may be required to make a request, because the accommodation is not obvious.

22 18. Plaintiffs allege that they are not required to make a request for reasonable
23 accommodation and for auxiliary aids when the barriers to communication are overt
24 and obvious. However, in the present case, Plaintiffs did make such requests for
25 accommodation to eliminate overt and obvious barriers to its rental services
26 communications. Plaintiffs allege that providing effective contact information for
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1 Defendants' rental services on the internet is an obvious accommodation. The
2 general public does not need to request a contact number from the Defendant
3 apartment owner or operator when they desire to rent a place. Defendants provide the
4 contact number on their website. Therefore, Plaintiffs allege that Defendants are
5 required to provide the obvious accommodation of effective communication for
6 people that are deaf or with speech impediment on their website without a request.
7 Defendants must make their rental services accessible without the need for a prior
8 request. Furthermore, Defendants have a duty to remove architectural barriers and
9 communication barriers to their rental services without request.

10 19. Plaintiffs allege that there is disparate treatment on the internet related to the
11 amenities being offered to people without disabilities and people with disabilities.
12 All the below facts and the facts stated elsewhere herein have a disparate impact on
13 the disability community. The named Plaintiffs experienced and have knowledge of
14 the below facts that the Plaintiffs ascertained from Defendants' websites. Defendant
15 operates an apartment property. The property is located at 16141 Vanowen St, Van
16 Nuys, CA 91406. The property was built in 1970 and has 2 stories with 42 units. The
17 rent is approximately: \$1,595. The internet provides a wealth of information
18 regarding the property. The internet advertises that the property has amenities that
19 include: Community Features: Laundry Facilities, Pool; Floorplan Amenities: High
20 Speed Internet Access, Air Conditioning, Heating, Smoke Free, Kitchen, Oven,
21 Range, Refrigerator; Parking & Garage: Parking: None. The property advertises on
22 trulia.com, zillow.com, redfin.com, apartmentfinder.com. It is very important to
23 know that on trulia.com, zillow.com, redfin.com, apartmentfinder.com there is the
24 equal housing opportunity logo. The plaintiff alleges that there is disparate treatment
25 on the internet related to the amenities being offered to people without disabilities
26 and people with disabilities. For example, the tow signage was not installed. The
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1 accessible parking space had an access aisle, which was not van accessible. The aisle
2 did not have the “no parking” included in the access aisle. The office had a high
3 threshold. There was no International Symbol of Accessibility signage. The Internet
4 does not state the accessible amenities at all. Also, the statement the “equal housing
5 opportunity statement” is misleading. In fact, the property is not completely
6 accessible. All the above facts and the facts stated herein have a disparate impact on
7 the disability community.

8 20. On Defendants’ websites, they allow the public without deafness and without
9 speech impairments to participate by providing them with a telephone number to
10 call. However, Plaintiff Club members that are deaf and or with speech impairments
11 are denied equal access to participate because the Defendants do not have any
12 effective communication.

13 21. Defendants provide websites for people without disabilities to benefit from the
14 rental services without going to the apartments to learn about the properties.
15 However, for people with disabilities that require the access to the facility, the
16 Defendants do not provide any information on the websites regarding if the rental
17 services located both on or off the property are accessible. Moreover, the Defendants
18 provide the telephone number for the public to call to inquire about the rental
19 services without providing any effective alternative communications for Plaintiffs
20 and other people that are deaf or have speech impairments.

21 22. For people without disabilities, the Defendants provide all of the information
22 on their websites. For Plaintiffs with disabilities, Defendants require them to travel to
23 the Property to determine if it is accessible, then require them to request the effective
24 communication, and then thereafter to request a reasonable accommodation to the
25 overt and obvious communication barrier. Therefore, Defendants require Plaintiffs
26 and other people with disabilities to suffer a separate benefit.
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1 23. Additionally, the named Plaintiffs are alleging photograph discrimination
2 related to the physical access of each of the apartments within Exhibit B to this
3 complaint. The purpose of Defendants' internet photographs is to entice perspective
4 renters to apply online or to contact the Defendants to rent a place. Defendants'
5 internet photographs only entice people without mobility disabilities. Defendants'
6 internet photographs exclude any photographs of any accessible features that would
7 aid the Plaintiffs. For example, there is no photograph of accessible parking. There
8 are no photographs of the accessible route to the rental services both on or off the
9 property. There are photographs of the accessible route to the rental services. There
10 are no photographs related to the access to get into and use the rental services. There
11 are no photographs related to the accessible route of the common area. There are no
12 photographs of the accessible units. In fact, all the photographs lead a person with a
13 mobility disability to believe that the apartments are not accessible, or that they must
14 have someone go to the properties to make sure it is accessible. However, people
15 without disabilities are not required to go to the Property to see if it is accessible.

16 24. Defendants websites and Defendants' rental services are not integrated for
17 people with disabilities as required. Plaintiffs are required to request an
18 accommodation. People without disabilities can access the websites and the rental
19 services without any problem, but Plaintiffs and other people with disabilities are
20 required to request for separate rental services. People with mobility conditions are
21 not integrated when using the websites because they must go to the apartments to
22 determine if they are accessible, but people without disabilities need only access
23 Defendants' websites to determine they can use them. People that are blind and with
24 low vision disabilities must request help to read the website information because the
25 printed information is too small, but people without disabilities can access the
26 websites without asking for help. Plaintiffs and other people with deafness or people
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1 with speech condition must ask for help calling the number on the websites, because
2 Defendants fail to provide a TTY number to contact, or Defendants fail to provide a
3 texting system. Defendants discriminated against the Plaintiffs.

4 25. Plaintiff Club member went to Defendant's apartment facilities at the Property
5 in January, 2025, and on a second subsequent date, to access the rental services. The
6 Named Individual Plaintiff has actual knowledge of Defendants' overt and obvious
7 physical barriers, that relate to this Plaintiff's disabilities, to Defendants' Property
8 on-site rental services that this Named Individual Plaintiff intended to visit in
9 January, 2025, and on a second subsequent date, but this Plaintiff was deterred from
10 accessing Defendant's rental services located on the Property. Defendants provide
11 rental information, rental applications, and other rental services on-site at the
12 Property. Defendants' agents confirmed to the Plaintiffs that rental information,
13 rental applications, and other rental services were available on-site at the Property.
14 Defendants' rental services at the Property are not accessible. Defendants' path of
15 travel from the sidewalk to the rental services is not accessible since it has step
16 changes in level along the path. The main entrance door leading into the complex
17 fails to have the required smooth and uninterrupted surface at the bottom of the door.
18 The operating hardware on the exit side of the main entrance door is a round knob,
19 which is further encircled by metal. Defendant's callbox is located too high to be
20 accessible. There are numerous step changes in level that must be traversed to
21 access Defendant's rental services entrance door. Defendants do not provide the
22 required directional signage as to the designated path of travel from the sidewalk to
23 Defendant's rental services. Defendant's rental services entrance is not accessible
24 due to a significant step change in level at the rental services door threshold that is
25 not beveled or ramped. Defendant's rental services entrance door fails to have the
26 required smooth and uninterrupted surface at the bottom of the door. Additionally,
27 Defendant's rental services entry door operating hardware is a round knob. The
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1 document drop box at Defendant's rental services is mounted too high to be
2 accessible. The Named Individual Plaintiff has mobility disabilities and these step
3 changes in level and the other stated issues cause the path of travel and the rental
4 services entry to be not accessible. Defendants failed to provide any directional
5 signage indicating an alternate accessible path of travel to the rental services.
6 Defendants failed to provide the required fully compliant van accessible disabled
7 parking for the rental services. Defendants failed to provide a dimensionally
8 compliant van accessible disabled parking space and disabled parking access aisle,
9 the required disabled parking signage, including tow away signage, fine signage,
10 ground markings, and failed to locate said parking on a level surface and nearest the
11 rental services. Defendants also failed to provide compliant tow away signage. The
12 Named Individual Plaintiff requires the use of a compliant van accessible disabled
13 parking space to safely exit and re-enter the vehicle. Defendants' failure to provide
14 the required compliant disabled parking, disabled parking access aisle, disabled
15 parking disability signage, access aisle, and disability ground markings, such that the
16 Named Individual Plaintiff is not able to safely park at Defendants' establishment
17 since the individual Plaintiff may be precluded from exiting or re-entering the
18 vehicle if the disabled parking and disabled parking signage is not present and others
19 park improperly. Additionally, Defendants failed to provide the required accessible
20 path of travel from the parking area to the rental services since the existing path of
21 travel has step changes in level. Additionally, Defendants overt and obvious
22 communication barriers were also present at the rental services in January, 2025, and
23 on a second subsequent date. Defendants failed to provide any method of text
24 communication with their rental services and failed to publish any information as to
25 how to initiate text communication contact. The Named Individual Plaintiff had
26 actual knowledge of these barriers at Defendants' Property that Plaintiff intended to
27 visit, and the Named Individual Plaintiff was deterred from accessing Defendants'
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1 rental services at the Property again in January, 2025. See Property photos in Exhibit
2 B and Exhibit C.

3 26. Plaintiff Club and the named Individual Plaintiff desire to make sure that
4 Defendants' rental services at Defendants' property and Defendants' websites are
5 fully accessible to Plaintiff Club's members, the named Individual Plaintiff, and
6 other people with disabilities. Plaintiff Club, its Club members, and the named
7 Individual Plaintiff all have actual knowledge of Defendants' discriminatory
8 conditions, and they are currently deterred from attempting further access until the
9 barriers are removed. Plaintiff Club and the named Individual Plaintiff intend to
10 return to Defendants' Property and Defendants websites at the end of this action to
11 obtain rental services, and to verify that the communication and architectural barriers
12 are removed. The named Plaintiffs' intent to return is genuine. In this case, Plaintiff
13 Club has numerous members residing near Defendants Property. Plaintiff Club's
14 members have actual knowledge of the discriminatory conditions as alleged herein
15 when the Plaintiff Club investigated the Property and the rental services and
16 determined that the Club members would not be able to use the rental services due to
17 the discriminatory conditions. Therefore, Plaintiff Club members were and are
18 deterred from visiting the properties. Plaintiff Members were not required to
19 actually visit the properties. See *Civil Rights Education & Enforcement Center v.*
20 *Hospitality Properties Trust*, 867 F.3d 1093 (9th Cir. 2017). However, a member of
21 Plaintiff Cub did visit and attempt to access Defendants' rental services at
22 Defendants' property. Plaintiff Club and the individual Plaintiff have specific plans
23 to visit at the conclusion of this case to obtain rental information and to verify the
24 Defendants ceased its discriminatory conduct by removing communication and
25 physical barriers to access to the rental services.
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**DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS –
FAIR HOUSING ACT CLAIMS**

27. FHA Standing:

Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere herein this complaint, Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in violation of FHA sections § 3604(f)(1- 3) and 42 § 3604(c), as further detailed below. As a result, the present named Plaintiffs suffered injury as a result of Defendants discriminatory actions, and named Plaintiffs now pray for damages, injunctive relief, declaratory relief, and other relief as hereinafter stated. The Federal Fair Housing Act applies to Defendants' apartment complex since it has more than 4 residential units. FHA standing is substantially broader than standing under the ADA due to the critically important need of adequate availability of housing for the disabled. A potential plaintiff is not even required to have an interest in renting a particular property or dwelling to have standing. *Smith v. Pacific Properties and Development Corp*, 358 F.3d 1097, 1099 (9th Cir 2004) [Testers have standing to bring Fair Housing Act claims, *Id* 1099, 1104]. Under the Act, any person harmed by discrimination, whether or not the target of the discrimination, can sue to recover for his or her own injury. *See Trafficante v. Metropolitan Life Ins. Co.*, 409 U.S. 205, 212, 93 S.Ct. 364, 34 L.Ed.2d 415 (1972). "This is true, for example, even where no housing has actually been denied to persons protected under the Act." *San Pedro Hotel v City of Los Angeles*, 159 F.3d 470, 474-475 (9th Cir 1998). In the present case, the named Plaintiffs alleged they suffered the injury of discriminatory conduct by Defendants, and that the named Plaintiffs suffered monetary and other damages as a result. The named Plaintiffs seek injunctive relief as well as damages, both of which are available under 42 USC § 3613(c). Assuming *arguendo* in the present case, that prospective injunctive relief was not available to Plaintiffs due to mootness or otherwise, which Plaintiffs dispute; the named Plaintiffs are still permitted to recover

1 damages under their federal FHA claims. *Harris v Itzakhi*, 183 F.3d 1043, 1050 (9th
2 Cir 1999) [During the appeal in *Harris* case, the plaintiff therein moved Three
3 Thousand (3000) miles away and her injunctive claims became moot. However,
4 Plaintiff's claim for damages survived and was not affected]. In the present case,
5 while Plaintiffs can satisfy the injunctive relief prudential standing requirements, the
6 above Ninth Circuit *Harris* court authority makes it clear that those prudential
7 standing requirements for injunctive relief are not applicable to Plaintiffs FHA
8 damage claims. Hence, in the present case, Plaintiffs damage claims survive even if
9 prospective injunctive relief is not available. The present Plaintiff Club has
10 organization standing separately on its own under the FHA. Additionally, under the
11 FHA, Plaintiff Club has associational standing to assert its Club member claims
12 since it only seeks injunctive and declaratory relief as to its Club members. Plaintiff
13 Club and the named Individual Plaintiff have standing with respect to the following
14 FHA claims.

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16 CLAIM I: Discrimination In Violation of 42 § 3604(f)(1) - Failure To Have A
17 Policy For Receiving Prospective Tenant Accommodation Requests, Failure To
18 Train Staff, And Failure To Make The Policy Known To The Plaintiffs

19 28. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere herein this
20 complaint, the named Plaintiffs suffered discrimination by Defendants in violation of
21 this FHA section. This FHA statute states it is unlawful to discriminate in the sale or
22 rental, or to otherwise make unavailable or deny, a dwelling to any buyer or renter
23 because of a handicap of (A) that buyer or renter; (B) a person residing in or
24 intending to reside in that dwelling after it is so sold, rented, or made available; or...
25 §3604(f)(1) [emphasis added]. See *Texas Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs*
26 *v Inclusive Communities Project*, 135 S.Ct. 2507, 2519 (2015) [FHA statutory
27 scheme permits disparate impact claims, and those type of claims do not require
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1 intent]. due to Defendants' communication and architectural barriers, Defendants
2 discriminated against Plaintiffs by failing to have a policy, practice, or method for
3 Plaintiffs to make a reasonable accommodation request for equal access to their
4 rental services on their website or at their Property. Defendants have an affirmative
5 duty to have a policy, process to receive such accommodation requests and to
6 respond to said requests. See *Giebler v. M & B Associates*, 343 F.3d 1143 (9th Cir.
7 2003). As a result, Defendant caused Plaintiffs to suffer disparate impact
8 discrimination.

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10 CLAIM II: Failure to Engage in Interactive Process In Violation Of The Fair
11 Housing Act And California Fair Employment And Housing Act

12 29. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere herein this
13 complaint, Plaintiffs suffered discrimination by Defendants in violation of FHA
14 section § 3604(f)(1) and § 3604(f)(2). Plaintiffs contend that Defendant failed to
15 engage in a good-faith interactive process to determine and to implement effective
16 reasonable accommodations so that Plaintiffs could gain equal access Defendants'
17 rental services, to apply for a lease, or to allow Plaintiffs to access Defendants' rental
18 services both on or off the property and apartments.

19 CLAIM III: Discrimination In Violation of 42 § 3604(f)(2)

20 30. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere herein this
21 complaint, the named Plaintiffs suffered discrimination by Defendants in violation of
22 this FHA section § 3604(f)(2). This FHA section states "it shall be unlawful to
23 discriminate against any person in the terms, conditions, or privileges of sale or
24 rental of a dwelling, or in the provision of services or facilities in connection with
25 such dwelling". Plaintiffs more specific factual basis for this claim is set forth
26 above at ¶¶ 23-26 above. As previously stated, the named Individual Plaintiff was a
27 prospective renter and Plaintiff Club was also seeking rental housing on behalf of the
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1 named Individual Plaintiff ¶¶8 – 26 above. In the instant case, Defendant’s rental
2 services located on the Property or off-site are “services” in connection with the
3 rental of a dwelling and the on-site or off-site rental services provided fall within the
4 FHA statute. In the instant case, the named Plaintiffs both assert that Defendant’s
5 failure to remove communication and architectural barriers to permit access to
6 Defendant’s on-site rental services contained is a separate, independent, actionable
7 violation of this FHA section § 3604(f)(2), even without reference to the ADA as a
8 predicate. Plaintiffs have alleged that Defendants’ Property has overt and obvious
9 physical barriers to access its rental services provided at the property. See ¶¶25 -26.
10 The 9th Circuit *Smith* court stated that the mere observation of overt architectural
11 barriers is actionable. *Smith* at 1104 [“To read an additional standing requirement
12 into the statute beyond mere observation, however, ignores that many overtly
13 discriminatory conditions, for example, lack of a ramped entryway, prohibit a
14 disabled individual from forming the requisite intent or actual interest in renting or
15 buying *for the very reason* that architectural barriers prevent them from viewing the
16 whole property in the first instance” (emphasis in original)]. The *Smith* court found
17 Defendants liable under this FHA subsection even though that case did not involve
18 ADA Title III claims. However, Plaintiffs did not just allege that Plaintiff Club
19 observed Defendant’s overt architectural barriers, but Plaintiffs alleged that a
20 Plaintiff Club member experienced the barriers, that the named Individual Plaintiff
21 had actual knowledge of Defendants’ communication and architectural barriers and
22 Plaintiff LEE was deterred from obtaining equal access to Defendant’s rental
23 services located thereon. Defendants also discriminated against Plaintiffs by failing
24 to modify its practices and policies to provide access via other methods of access to
25 its rental services located on or off the property site. Defendant’s failure to remove
26 the architectural and communication barriers to access its facilities and the rental
27 services located thereon, or failure to provide an accommodation to provide methods
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1 of alternate access to their rental services, constitutes the prohibited discrimination,
2 separately and independently. Additionally, Defendant's conduct is also prohibited
3 under ADA Title III and constitutes a second, separate, independent source of
4 discrimination against Plaintiffs in violation of FHA § 3604(f)(2). Since Defendants
5 discriminatory conduct involves Defendants' rental facilities and its rental services
6 located therein, Plaintiffs assert any discriminatory conduct found in violation of
7 ADA Title III also constitutes prohibited "discrimination" under FHA § 3604(f)(2).

8 CLAIM IV: Discrimination In Violation of 42 § 3604(f)(3)(A and B only)

9 31. Plaintiffs do not make any claim against Defendants for a failure to "design
10 and construct" pursuant to § 3604(f)(3)(C). Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26
11 above and elsewhere herein this complaint, Plaintiffs suffered discrimination by
12 Defendants in violation of FHA sections § 3604(f)(3)(A, B) only. The FHA requires
13 that "...[f]or the purposes of this subsection, discrimination includes-- (B) a refusal
14 to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services, when
15 such accommodations may be necessary to afford such person equal opportunity to
16 use and enjoy a dwelling..." 42 § 3604(f)(3)(B). See also *Giebler v. M & B*
17 *Associates*, 343 F.3d 1143 (9th Cir 2003). Defendants improperly refused Plaintiffs'
18 repeated written and other requests for an accommodation to have equal access to its
19 rental services.

20 CLAIM V: Discrimination In Violation of 42 § 3604(c) As To NSA

21 32. Based on information, belief, and the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 – 26 above and
22 elsewhere herein, Plaintiffs herein alleges that Defendants caused Plaintiffs to suffer
23 the injury of discrimination since Defendants violated 42 U.S.C. §§ 3604 (c) with
24 respect to its notices, statements, and advertisements ("NSA"). Plaintiffs allege that
25 Defendants discriminated against them when Defendants made, printed, or
26 published, or caused to be made printed, or published notices, statements, or
27

1 advertisements (“NSA”) that suggest to an ordinary reader a preference to attract
2 tenants without disabilities. Defendants' Internet advertising regarding its rental
3 services has an unlawful disparate impact on Plaintiffs.
4

5 SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION : **Violation of California Fair Housing Act**

6 33. Failure to Provide Obvious Reasonable Accommodation and Modification:
7 Based on information, belief and the facts stated above at ¶¶ 8 – 26 above and
8 elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs allege that Defendants refused to make
9 reasonable accommodations in rules, policies, practices, or services in violation of
10 CA Government Code sections 12927 and 12955.2, when these accommodations
11 may be necessary to afford a disabled person equal opportunity to use and enjoy
12 Defendants’ rental services. As stated in detail above, Defendants refused to make
13 reasonable accommodations with the instant Plaintiffs and discriminated against each
14 of them on the basis of disability.
15

16 THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS- **Claims Under**
17 **The Americans With Disabilities Act Of 1990**

18 34. ADA Standing:

19 ADA Title III does cover public and common use areas at housing
20 developments when these public areas are, by their nature, open to the general
21 public. An office providing rental services is open to the general public. (See U.S.
22 Department of Justice - ADA Title III Technical Assistance Section III-1.2000,
23 Illustration 3, office on or off the site covered). The parking and paths of travel to
24 the office on or off the site are also covered. *See* Section III–1.2000, ADA Title III
25 Technical Assistance Manual, <http://www.ada.gov/taman3.html> (“ILLUSTRATION
26 3: A private residential apartment complex contains a office on or off the site. The
27 office on or off the site is a place of public accommodation”). *See Kalani v Castle*
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1 *Village, LLC*, 14 F.Supp.3d 1359, 1371 (*E.D.Cal*, 2014)[citing *Johnson v. Laura*
2 *Dawn Apartments, LLC*, 2012 WL 33040 at *1 n. 1 (E.D.Cal.2012) (Hollows, M.J.)
3 (“[t]he leasing office of an apartment is a place of public accommodation.”]. In the
4 present case, the named Plaintiffs have also sufficiently alleged that Defendants
5 provide rental services at the property. Following prior sister Circuit Courts of
6 Appeals decisions, our Ninth Circuit Court very recently held that an ADA Plaintiff
7 can be only a “tester” and have standing. See *Civil Rights Education & Enforcement*
8 *Center v. Hospitality Properties Trust*, 867 F.3d 1093 (9th Cir. 2017) [the Ninth
9 Circuit *CREEC* court held (1) ADA “tester” standing is valid and a Plaintiff’s
10 motivation for visit is “irrelevant”, and (2) an ADA “deterrent effect doctrine” claim
11 does not require a Plaintiff to have a personal encounter with the barrier to equal
12 access, only to have knowledge of the barrier] citing *Havens Realty Corp. v.*
13 *Coleman*, 455 U.S. 363, 372–74, 102 S.Ct. 1114 (1982); *Smith v. Pacific Properties*
14 *and Development Corp*, 358 F.3d 1097, 1102-1104 (9th Cir 2004); *Chapman v. Pier*
15 *I Imports (U.S.) Inc.*, 631 F.3d 939 (9th Cir 2011, en banc); *Houston v. Marod*
16 *Supermarkets, Inc.*, 733 F.3d 1323, 1335–37 (11th Cir. 2013); *Colo. Cross Disability*
17 *Coal. v. Abercrombie & Fitch Co.*, 765 F.3d 1205, 1210–11 (10th Cir. 2014). In the
18 present case, the named Plaintiffs each have ADA standing. Plaintiffs have alleged
19 that Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in violation of ADA Title III statutes
20 and regulations as detailed further in the ADA claims stated below. As a result, the
21 named Plaintiffs have each suffered injury and each seek only injunctive and
22 declaratory relief pursuant to their ADA Claims.

23 CLAIM I: **Auxiliary Aids – Failure To Effectively Communicate**

24 35. 42 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(iii) states, "a failure to take such steps as
25 may be necessary to ensure that no individual with a disability is excluded, denied
26 services, segregated or otherwise treated differently than other individuals because of
27 the absence of auxiliary aids and services, unless the entity can demonstrate that
28

1 taking such steps would fundamentally alter the nature of the good, service, facility,
2 privilege, advantage, or accommodation being offered or would result in an undue
3 burden;..." Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this
4 complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants
5 violated said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most
6 specifically at ¶¶ 13 -14, 16-24 above. The ADA "applies to the services of a place
7 of public accommodation, not services *in* a place of public accommodation. To limit
8 the ADA to discrimination in the provision of services occurring on the premises of a
9 public accommodation would contradict the plain language of the statute." Nat'l
10 Fed'n of the Blind v. Target Corp., 452 F. Supp. 2d 946, 953 (N.D. Cal. 2006)
11 (emphasis added) (citing *Weyer v. Twentieth Century Fox Film Corp.*, 198 F.3d
12 1104, 1115 (9th Cir. 2000) [holding that "whatever goods or services the place
13 provides, it cannot discriminate on the basis of disability in providing enjoyment of
14 those goods and services"])). An ADA plaintiff may challenge a business' online
15 offerings as well. So long as there is a "nexus"—that is, "some connection between
16 the good or service complained of and an actual physical place"—a plaintiff may
17 challenge the digital offerings of an otherwise physical business. *See Gorecki v.*
18 *Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc.*, 2017 WL 2957736, at *4 (C.D. Cal. June 15, 2017) [Case:
19 CV 17-1131-JFW (SKx)]. The ADA requires the Defendants to provide effective
20 communication to the instant Plaintiffs and to people with disabilities. In the
21 present case, Plaintiffs experienced and have knowledge that Defendants failed to
22 have a required procedure to provide effective communication. Plaintiffs allege that
23 Defendants failed to train their staff on the way to use the auxiliary aids. Defendants
24 did not provide any auxiliary aid and the Defendants did not provide any reasonable
25 accommodation to the overt and obvious communication barriers, and failed to
26 respond to Plaintiffs' requests for accommodation. Plaintiffs are not demanding that
27
28

1 Defendants provide a specific reasonable accommodation or a specific auxiliary aid.
2 ADA law allows the Defendants to decide what auxiliary aid and reasonable
3 accommodation will be provided. In this case, however, Defendants failed to
4 provide any reasonable accommodation for the overt and obvious communication
5 barriers to equal access to their rental services, failed to provide any auxiliary aid,
6 and failed to provide any effective communication. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants'
7 websites provide a contact number for the general public, but Defendants failed to
8 provide Plaintiffs with the required effective communication using texting or other
9 alternate means of communication for Plaintiffs and other people with a deaf
10 condition or a speech condition. Defendants' conduct discriminates against Plaintiff
11 Club's members that have hearing disabilities and Club's members with speech
12 disabilities. Defendants are required to provide, on Defendants' websites, to provide
13 a method to effectively communicate with Plaintiff Club members that have hearing
14 and speech disabilities, and other people that are deaf or have speech impairments.

15 CLAIM II: **Denial of Participation**

16 36. 42 United States Code 12182(b)(1)(A)(i) states, "It shall be discriminatory to
17 subject an individual or class of individuals on the basis of a disability or disabilities
18 of such individual or class, directly, or through contractual, licensing, or other
19 arrangements, to a denial of the opportunity of the individual or class to participate in
20 or benefit from the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or
21 accommodations of an entity." Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and
22 elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that
23 Defendants violated said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim
24 most specifically at ¶¶ 20-24 above. Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in
25 violation of 42 United States Code 12182(b)(1)(A)(i) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188.
26

27 ///

1 CLAIM III: **Participation in Unequal Benefit**

2 37. Defendants provide unequal benefit for people with disabilities in violation of
3 42 United States Code 12182(b)(1)(A)(ii) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts
4 plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed,
5 believe, and thereon allege that Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in
6 violation of said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most
7 specifically at ¶¶ 20-24 above.

8 CLAIM IV: **Separate Benefit**

9 38. Defendants' photographs discriminate against Plaintiffs in violation of 42
10 United States Code 12182(b)(2)(A)(iii) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts
11 plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed,
12 believe, and thereon allege that Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in
13 violation of said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most
14 specifically at ¶¶ 20-24 above.

15 CLAIM V: **Integrated Settings**

16 39. Defendants' rental services are not integrated for Plaintiffs and people with
17 disabilities in violation of 42 United States Code 12182(b)(1)(B) and 42 U.S.C. §
18 12188. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint,
19 Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants discriminated
20 against Plaintiffs in violation of said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis
21 for this claim most specifically at ¶¶ 20-24 above.

22 CLAIM VI: **Failure To Modify Practices, Policies And Procedures**

23 40. Defendants failed and refused to provide a reasonable alternative by
24 modifying its practices, policies, and procedures in that they failed to have a scheme,
25 plan, or design to accommodate Plaintiff Club, its Club members, the individual
26 named Plaintiff, and/or others similarly situated in utilizing Defendants' rental
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1 services, at its websites and at the Property, in violation of 42 United States Code
2 12182(b)(2)(A)(ii) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26
3 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon
4 allege that Defendants discriminated against Plaintiffs in violation of said provision.
5 Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most specifically at ¶¶ 18-26 above.

6 **CLAIM VII: Failure To Remove Architectural And Communication Barriers**

7 41. Plaintiffs allege that Defendants failed to remove architectural barrier and
8 communication barriers as required in violation of 42 United States Code
9 12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) and 42 U.S.C. § 12182. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26
10 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon
11 allege that Defendants discriminated against the named Individual Plaintiff in
12 violation of said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most
13 specifically at ¶¶ 8,9,20-24,25,26 above. The named Individual Plaintiff personally
14 reviewed all the information and photographs of Defendants' property. As a result,
15 the named Individual Plaintiff has actual knowledge of the physical and
16 communication barriers that exist at Defendants' Property. The named Individual
17 Plaintiff determined that the physical barriers that exist at Defendants' property,
18 directly relate to his disabilities, and make it impossible or extremely difficult for
19 him to physically access Defendants' rental services at the Property. The named
20 Individual Plaintiff was deterred by his actual knowledge of the physical and
21 communication barriers that exist at Defendants' Property which include but are not
22 limited to the barriers to facilities and services for disabled parking, exterior path of
23 travel to the rental services at the property, entrance and interior, since said
24 Defendants' facilities and rental services were not accessible because they failed to
25 comply with the Federal ADA Accessibility Guidelines ("ADAAG") and California's
26 Title 24 Building Code Requirements. See ¶¶ 25 for details. The named Individual
27 Plaintiff had actual knowledge of these barriers and determined that it would be
28

1 futile gesture for him to go to the Property on the date that he had originally
2 intended. The named Individual Plaintiff is currently deterred from returning due to
3 his knowledge of the barriers. At the end of this action, the named Individual
4 Plaintiff intends to return to Defendants' property or off the site location to obtain
5 rental information and verify that the communication and physical barriers to
6 Defendants' rental services are removed. Defendants failure to remove the barriers
7 to equal access constitutes discrimination against the named Individual Plaintiff.

8 **CLAIM VIII: Failure To Make Alterations Readily Accessible And Usable**

9 42. Defendants are required to make alterations to their facilities in such a manner
10 that, to the maximum extent feasible, the altered portions of the facility are readily
11 accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals who
12 use devices pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §12183(a)(2). Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 -
13 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, the named Plaintiffs are informed, believe,
14 and thereon allege that Defendants violated this provision. Plaintiffs allege that
15 Defendants altered their facility in a manner that affects or could affect the usability
16 of the facility or a part of the facility after January 26, 1992. In performing the
17 alteration, Plaintiffs allege that Defendants failed to make the alteration in such a
18 manner that, to the maximum extent feasible, the altered portions of the facility are
19 readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities, including individuals
20 who use devices, in violation of 42 U.S.C. §12183(a)(2).

21 **CLAIM IX: Administrative Methods**

22 43. Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants contract
23 with website providers without making sure that the websites will be accessible to
24 people with disabilities in violation of 42 United States Code 12182(b)(1)(B) and 42
25 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this
26 complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants
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28

1 discriminated against the named Individual Plaintiff in violation of said provision.
2 Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most specifically at ¶¶18-26 above.

3 CLAIM X: **Screen Out**

4 44. Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants screened
5 out Plaintiffs and other people with disabilities in violation of 42 United States Code
6 12182(b)(2)(A)(i) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26
7 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon
8 allege that Defendants discriminated against the named Plaintiffs in violation of said
9 provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most specifically at ¶¶ 8
10 - 26 above. Defendants screened out the named Plaintiffs from its rental services and
11 processes, because Defendants failed to remove architectural and communication
12 barriers to its website and property, failed to provide required effective alternate
13 communication methods, and failed to provide required auxiliary aids.

14
15 CLAIM XI: **Denial Of Full And Equal Access**

16 45. Defendants are required to provide full and equal access to Defendants' rental
17 services, goods, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations pursuant to 42
18 United States Code 12182(b) and 42 U.S.C. § 12188. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶
19 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and
20 thereon allege that Defendants discriminated against the named Plaintiffs in violation
21 of said provision. Plaintiffs set forth the factual basis for this claim most specifically
22 at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above.

23
24 CLAIM XII: **Failure To Investigate And Maintain Accessible Features**

25 46. Defendants made repairs and administrative changes which violated ADA and
26 its regulations. See ADA Title III Regulations Sec.36.211 Maintenance of accessible
27
28

1 features. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint,
2 Defendants failed to provide and then maintain any accessible features in its parking,
3 path of travel, on or off the property site for rental services and website rental
4 services. Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants
5 discriminated against the named Plaintiffs in violation of this provision.
6

7 CLAIM XIII: **Association**

8 47. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint,
9 Plaintiffs are informed, believe, and thereon allege that Defendants discriminated
10 against the named Plaintiffs in violation of 42 U.S.C. § 12182(b)(1)(E)
11

12 **DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

13 FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION: ONLY THE INDIVIDUALL NAMED
14 PLAINTIFF AGAINST ALL DEFENDANTS - **CLAIMS UNDER CALIFORNIA**
15 **ACCESSIBILITY LAWS**

16 CLAIM I: **Denial Of Full And Equal Access**

17 48. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint, the
18 named Individual Plaintiff was denied full and equal access to Defendants' goods.
19 services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or accommodations within a public
20 accommodation owned, leased, and/or operated by Defendants as required by Civil
21 Code Sections 54, 54.1, and specifically 54.1(d). The factual basis for this claim is at
22 18-28 above.

23 CLAIM II: **Failure To Modify Practices, Policies And Procedures**

24 49. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint,
25 the named Individual Plaintiff was denied full and equal access to Defendants' goods.
26 Defendants failed and refused to provide a reasonable alternative by modifying its
27 practices, policies, and procedures in that they failed to have a scheme, plan, or
28

1 design to assist Plaintiff Members and/or others similarly situated in entering and
2 utilizing Defendants' services as required by Civil Code § 54.1. The factual basis for
3 this claim is at 18-28 above.

4 **CLAIM III: Violation Of The Unruh Act**

5 50. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint,
6 the individual, the named Individual Plaintiff was denied full and equal access to
7 Defendants' goods. Defendants violated the CA Civil Code § 51 by specifically
8 failing to comply with Civil Code §51(f). Defendants' facility violated state
9 disability laws, the ANSI Standards, A117, and California's Title 24 Accessible
10 Building Code by failing to provide equal access to Defendants' facilities.
11 Defendants did and continue to discriminate against Plaintiff Members in violation
12 of Civil Code §§ 51(f), and 52. The factual basis for this claim is at 18-28 above.

13 **Treble Damages Pursuant To California Accessibility Laws**

14 51. Based on the facts plead at ¶¶ 8 - 26 above and elsewhere in this complaint,
15 only the named Individual Plaintiff prays for an award of treble damages against
16 Defendants, and each of them, pursuant to California Civil Code sections 52(a) and
17 54.3(a). Defendants, each of them respectively, at times prior to and including the
18 day the named Individual Plaintiff attempted patronized Defendants' facilities and
19 rental services, and continuing to the present time, knew that persons with physical
20 disabilities were denied their rights of equal access. Despite such knowledge,
21 Defendants, and each of them, failed and refused to take steps to comply with the
22 applicable access statutes; and despite knowledge of the resulting problems and
23 denial of civil rights thereby suffered by the named Individual Plaintiff. Defendants,
24 and each of them, have failed and refused to take action to grant full and equal access
25 to the individual Plaintiff in the respects complained of hereinabove. Defendants,
26 and each of them, have carried out a course of conduct of refusing to respond to, or
27 correct complaints about, denial of disabled access and have refused to comply with
28

1 their legal obligations to make Defendants' public accommodation facilities and
2 rental services accessible pursuant to the ADAAG and Title 24 of the California
3 Code of Regulations (also known as the California Building Code). Such actions
4 and continuing course of conduct by Defendants in conscious disregard of the rights
5 and/or safety of the named Individual Plaintiff justify an award of treble damages
6 pursuant to sections 52(a) and 54.3(a) of the California Civil Code.

7
8 **DEMAND FOR JUDGMENT FOR RELIEF:**

9 A. All named Plaintiffs seeks injunctive relief pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 3613(c) and
10 42 U.S.C. § 12188(a). Only the named Individual Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief
11 pursuant to CA Civil Code §52. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 3613(c), all Plaintiffs request
12 this court to enjoin Defendants to cease their discriminatory practices in housing
13 rental services, rental housing management services, and for Defendants to
14 implement written policies and methods to respond to reasonable accommodation
15 and reasonable modification requests. Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 12188(a), Plaintiffs
16 request this Court enjoin Defendants to remove all barriers to equal access to the
17 disabled Plaintiffs in, at, or on their facilities, including but not limited to
18 architectural and communicative barriers in the provision of Defendants' rental
19 services. Plaintiffs do not seek injunctive relief pursuant to Cal. Civil Code §55 and
20 Plaintiffs do not seek attorneys' fees pursuant to Cal. Civil Code §55. Plaintiffs do
21 not seek any relief at all pursuant to Cal. Civil Code §55.

22 B. All named Plaintiffs seek actual damages pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 3613(c).
23 However, Plaintiff Club only seeks damages for itself. Plaintiff Club does not seek
24 damages on behalf of its members;

25 C. Only the named Individual Plaintiff seeks recovery of actual damages pursuant
26 to Cal. Civil Code §§ 52 or 54.3;

27 D. Only the named Individual Plaintiff seeks \$4,000 in minimum statutory
28

1 damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 52 for each and every offense of Civil Code §
2 51, pursuant to Munson v. Del Taco, (June 2009) *46 Cal. 4th 661*;

3 E. In the alternative to the damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 52 in Paragraph
4 C above, only the named individual Plaintiff seeks \$1,000 in minimum statutory
5 damages pursuant to Cal. Civil Code § 54.3 for each and every offense of Civil Code
6 § 54.1;

7 F. All named Plaintiffs seek attorneys' fees pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 3613(c)(2), 42
8 U.S.C. § 12205, and Cal. Civil Code §§ 52, 54.3;

9 G. Only the named individual Plaintiff seeks treble damages pursuant to Cal.
10 Civil Code §§ 52(a) or 54.3(a);

11 H. The named Plaintiffs are seeking perspective injunctive relief to require the
12 Defendants to provide obvious reasonable accommodations, to provide the required
13 auxiliary aids and to modify Defendants' procedures, practices, and policies of the
14 Defendants in the provision of Defendants' rental services. Without perspective
15 relief the Plaintiffs will suffer future harm.

16 I. All named Plaintiffs seek a Jury Trial and;

17 J. For such other further relief as the court deems proper.

18
19 Respectfully submitted:

20 LIGHTNING LAW, APC

21 Dated: January 18, 2025

22 By: /s/David C. Wakefield
23 DAVID C. WAKEFIELD, ESQ.
24 Attorney for Plaintiffs
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